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**NEWS RELEASE**

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***CONTINUED PROGRESS FOR JUVENILE CORRECTIONS  
High Rating Results in Dismissal of all but Three Reporting Areas***

PHOENIX – A report monitoring six months' progress at the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) has found that the agency continues to make advancement in improving services it provides to youth offenders.

This Fifth Semi-Annual report assesses the Department's progress toward compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement executed by the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) on September 15, 2004. This report covers the period from September 16, 2006 through March 15, 2007.

In the Fifth Report, ADJC is found to be substantially compliant on all but three of 130-plus sections of the complaint. These sections include follow up treatment of juveniles who have come off special suicide prevention status, and the mortality review process for completed or serious suicide attempts.

All remaining sections, covering protection of youth from harm, grievances, reporting and investigation allegation of abuse of youth, exclusion, separation, due process, staffing, and quality assurance, are in substantial compliance. By substantially complying with the protection from harm portions of the agreement, the ADJC has addressed many of the key objectives of the CRIPA action.

The CRIPA Agreement provides that any provision found to be in substantial compliance during three consecutive reporting periods is subject to termination from monitoring. Fifteen provisions were terminated from the agreement after the third and fourth reports. ADJC has requested of the DOJ the termination of 57 additional sections. This includes the entire Special Education portion of the Agreement; therefore, none will be subject to additional monitoring by the Arizona Department of Education. All sections in the areas of Medical and Dental Care are in substantial compliance and will not be monitored further.

Additionally, all areas of Mental Health are now in substantial compliance. Attaining a substantial compliance rating in this area satisfies another of the primary goals of the CRIPA agreement.

On or before September 15, the ADJC and DOJ intend to file a joint motion to dismiss the CRIPA lawsuit which was conditionally dismissed upon the joint motion of the parties on September 15, 2004.

The entire report can be viewed on the ADJC public website @ [www.azdjc.gov](http://www.azdjc.gov)

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